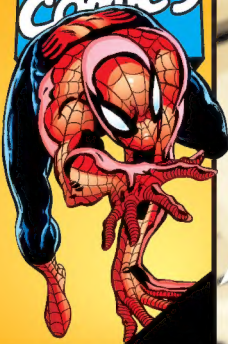


MARVEL
COMICS



SEPT
#11

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CODE
AUTHORITY

SPIDER-MAN

CHAPTER ONE

WHAT DOES
IT TAKE
TO **KILL**
A SPIDER?



TRY A
GIANT-MAN!

The **BIG MAN** And The **LITTLE LADY**

THE PLACE, A
HIDDEN LAB
SOMEWHERE IN
MANHATTAN.

"SPIDER-MAN
FLEES BATTLE
WITH GREEN
GOBLIN."

"MASKED MENACE
LEAVES CLUB
PATRONS AT
MERCY OF
RAMPAGING
SUPER-VILLAIN."

THE MAN, A SELF-
PROCLAIMED
MASTER CRIMINAL
KNOWN AS
"EGGHEAD."

"BUGLE
PUBLISHER
DEMANDS ARREST
AND PROSECUTION
OF SPIDER-MAN."

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EXCELLENT!

I HAVE BEEN IN HIDING FOR MONTHS, WAITING FOR A PERFECT MOMENT TO RENEW MY ATTACK ON GIANT-MAN.

HOW IRONIC, SINCE HE WAS ONCE ANT-MAN, THAT IT SHOULD BE ANOTHER BUG-MAN WHO PROVIDES THAT MOMENT!

I HAVE DEVOTED MUCH TIME AND ENERGY TO DUPLICATING THE MANNER IN WHICH GIANT-MAN COMMUNICATES WITH ANTS.

NOW, BY BROADCASTING A FALSE MESSAGE TO A NEARBY ANTHILL...

"...I CAN SET MY PERFECT SCHEME IN MOTION!"

THAT'S IT, JAN! YOU'RE GETTING THE HANG OF YOUR NEW COMPRESSED AIR GUN EVEN FASTER THAN I HOPED!

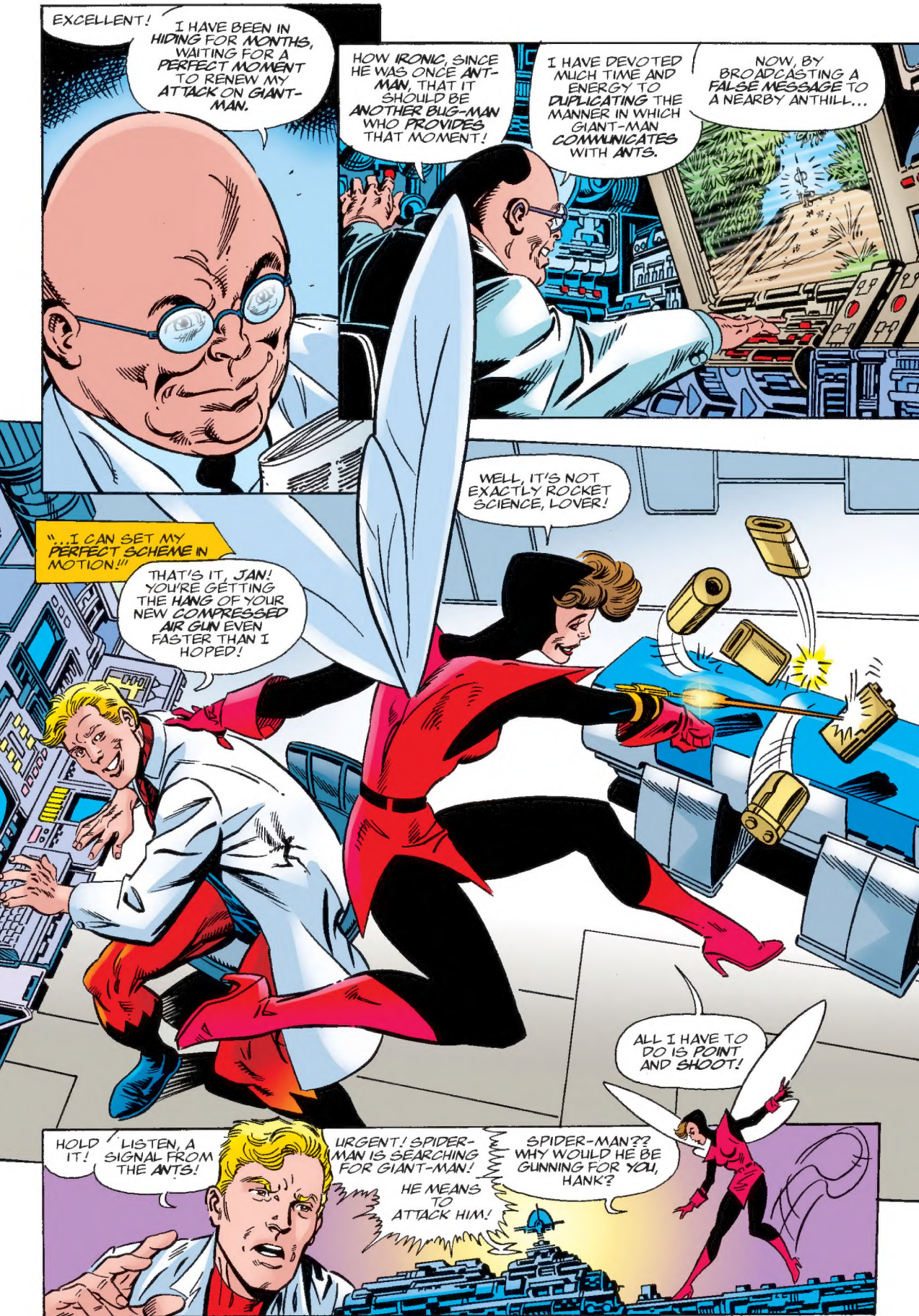
WELL, IT'S NOT EXACTLY ROCKET SCIENCE, LOVER!

ALL I HAVE TO DO IS POINT AND SHOOT!

HOLD IT! LISTEN, A SIGNAL FROM THE ANTS!

URGENT! SPIDER-MAN IS SEARCHING FOR GIANT-MAN! HE MEANS TO ATTACK HIM!

SPIDER-MAN?? WHY WOULD HE BE GUNNING FOR YOU, HANK?



BEATS ME--ALTHOUGH THE DAILY BUGLE THIS MORNING WAS FULL OF ALL KINDS OF HEADLINES ABOUT THE WALL-CRAWLER HAVING GONE BAD.

SCOUT AROUND, JAN. YOU HAVE THE BEST CHANCE OF SPOTTING SPIDER-MAN WITHOUT BEING SEEN YOURSELF.

BUT IF YOU DO CALL ME--DON'T ATTEMPT TO ENGAGE HIM YOURSELF!

THERE'S ONLY ONE MAN I WANT TO 'ENGAGE', DR. PYM...

...AND YOU KNOW WHO THAT IS!

ALMOST AS WELL AS YOU KNOW I'M NOT GOING TO PASS ON A CHANCE TO TRY OUT MY NEW WASP'S STING!

OH! HOW'S THAT FOR BEGINNER'S LUCK! THERE'S SPIDER-MAN NOW!

...WE WILL TAKE A MOMENT TO TURN BACK THE CLOCK SOMETHING LESS THAN A HALF HOUR...

...AND LOOK IN ON PETER PARKER AS HE PREPARES TO HEAD HOME AFTER A LONG VIGIL...

YOU'RE SURE IT'S SAFE FOR ME TO LEAVE NOW, DOCTOR?

YOU SAID IT WAS MY BEING HERE THAT GAVE MY AUNT THE STRENGTH TO RALLY AFTER HER HEART ATTACK.

AND AS THE WONDERFUL WASP FLIES UNSEEN TOWARD HER UNSUSPECTING TARGET...

"IT WON'T DO YOUR AUNT ANY GOOD TO SEE YOU LOOKING SO TIRED!"

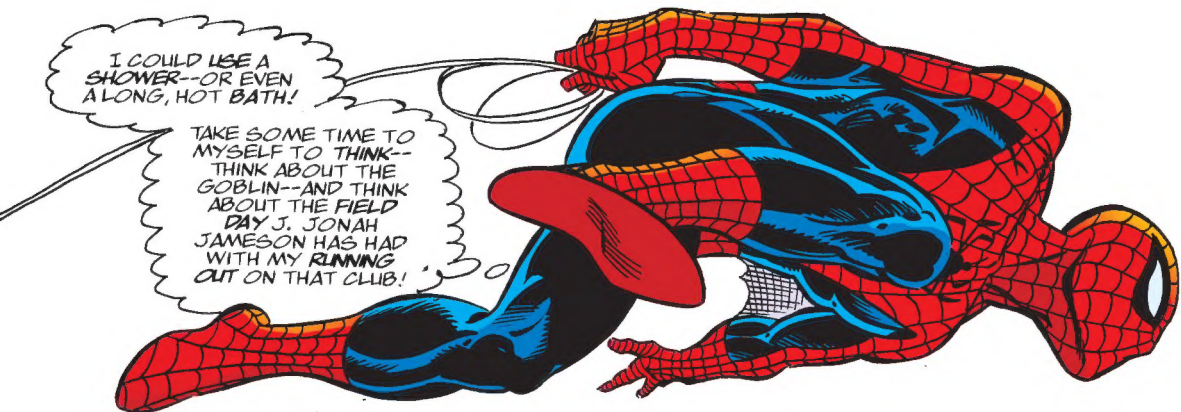
HE'S RIGHT.

WHAT WITH MY RUN-IN WITH THE GOBLIN AND AUNT MAY'S HEART ATTACK ALL IN ONE NIGHT...

YES, MR. PARKER IT WILL BE QUITE ALL RIGHT.

GO HOME--GET SOME REST, CLEAN UP A BIT.

...I DO FEEL A WHOLE LOT LIKE I'VE BEEN DRAGGED BACKWARDS THROUGH A CACTUS PATCH.



I COULD USE A SHOWER--OR EVEN ALONG, HOT BATH!

TAKE SOME TIME TO MYSELF TO THINK--
THINK ABOUT THE GOBLIN--AND THINK ABOUT THE FIELD DAY J. JONAH JAMESON HAS HAD WITH MY RUNNING OUT ON THAT CLUB!

I KNOW I SHOULD HAVE FOUND SOME WAY TO STOP THE GOBLIN BEFORE I TOOK OFF...

...BUT WHEN I OVERHEARD LIZ ALLAN'S FATHER GETTING THE CALL FROM THE HOSPITAL, I COULDN'T THINK ABOUT ANYTHING BUT AUNT MAY!

ANYWAY, THE HUMAN TORCH WAS THERE, TOO. I'M SURE THAT SHOW-OFF FOUND A WAY TO...

HEY!!

OH, NO! I MADE THE BLAST TOO STRONG!

I BLEW HIM RIGHT OFF HIS WEBLINE!

SOMETHING HIT ME! LIKE AN INVISIBLE CLUB OR SOMETHING!

WHY DIDN'T MY SPIDER-SENSE WARN ME OF THE ATTACK?

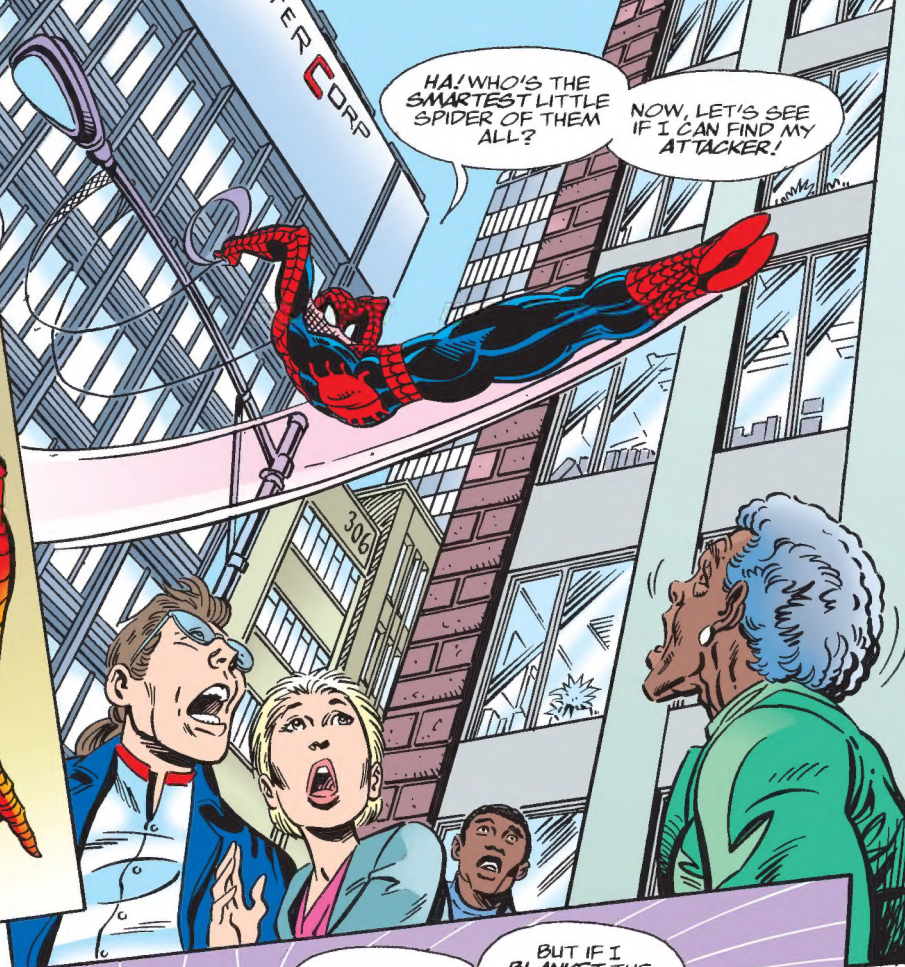
OKAY--WORRY ABOUT THAT LITTLE DETAIL AFTER YOU STOP YOURSELF BECOMING STREET PIZZA!

GOTTA TIME THIS JUST RIGHT...



HA! WHO'S THE SMARTEST LITTLE SPIDER OF THEM ALL?

NOW, LET'S SEE IF I CAN FIND MY ATTACKER!



MY SPIDER-SENSE IS TINGLING--BUT AT SUCH A LOW LEVEL I DIDN'T NOTICE IT WITHOUT CONCENTRATING.

WHATEVER'S AFTER ME, IT'S SOMETHING TOO SMALL TO SEE!

BUT IF I BLANKET THE WHOLE AREA WITH WEBS...

OH!



AND, AS THE WASP IS SNARED...

HANK! HELP! SPIDER-MAN HAS TRAPPED ME IN HIS WEBBING!

OH, FOR...! I TOLD HER NOT TO ENGAGE SPIDER-MAN ON HER OWN!





BUT SHE WAS TOO BUSY MAKING HER LITTLE JOKES TO PAY ATTENTION TO ME!

AT LEAST HER SIGNAL IS COMING FROM ONLY A FEW BLOCKS AWAY.

"I CAN COVER THAT DISTANCE IN NO TIME!!"

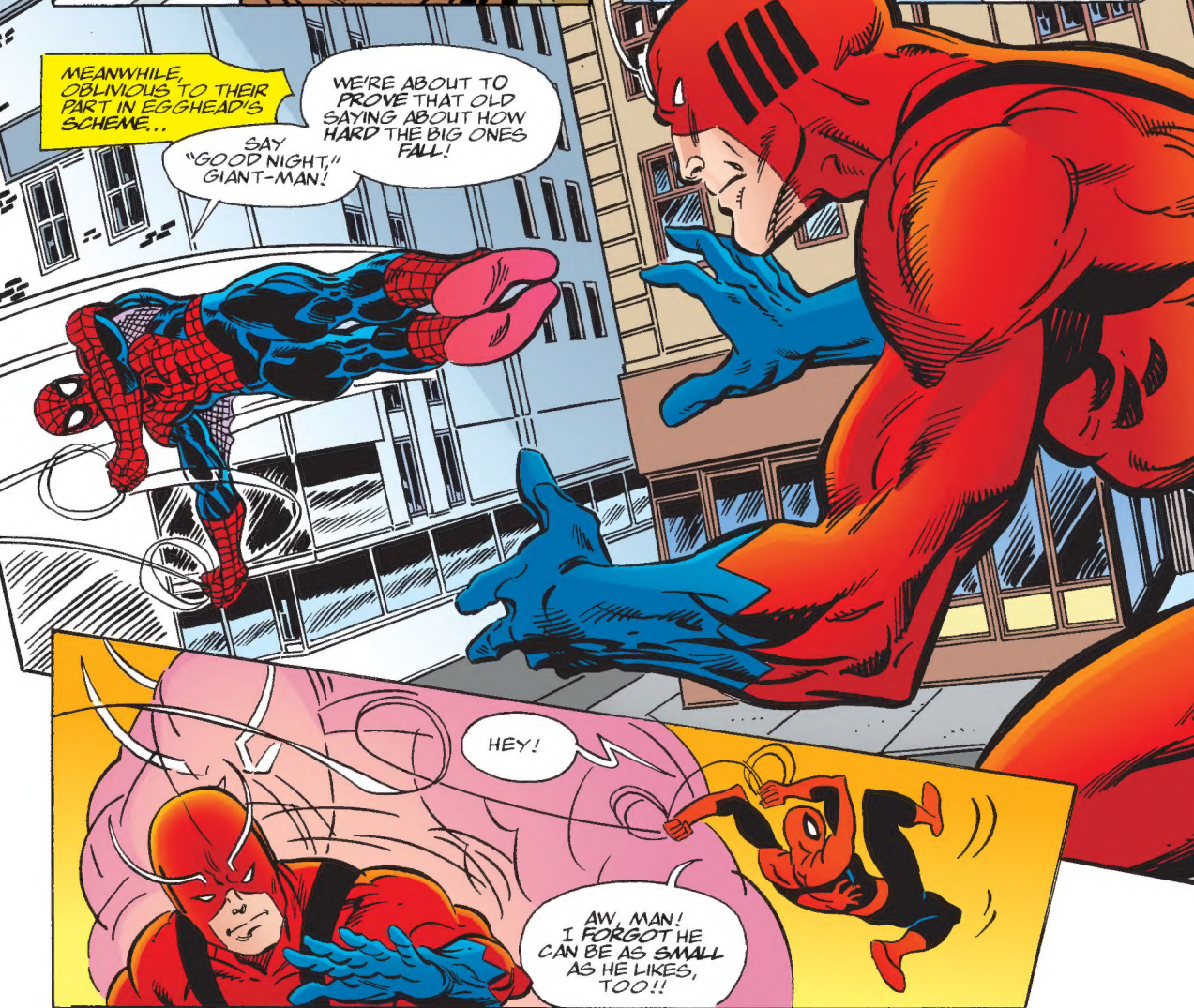
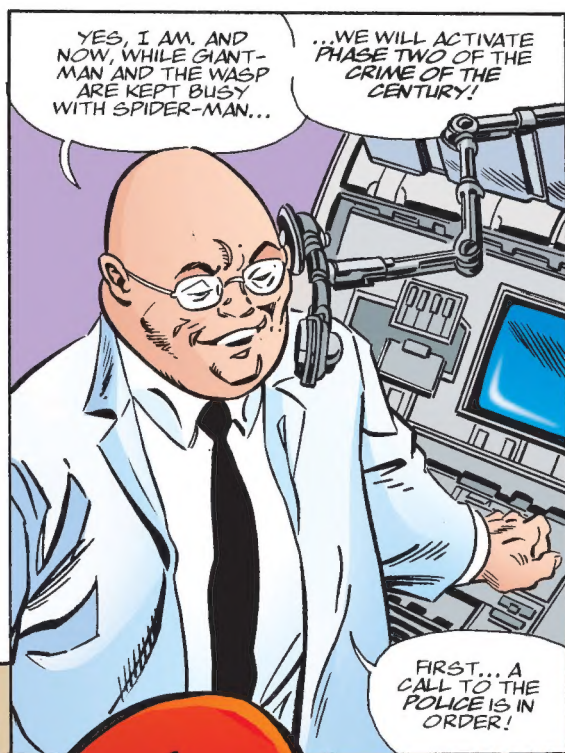
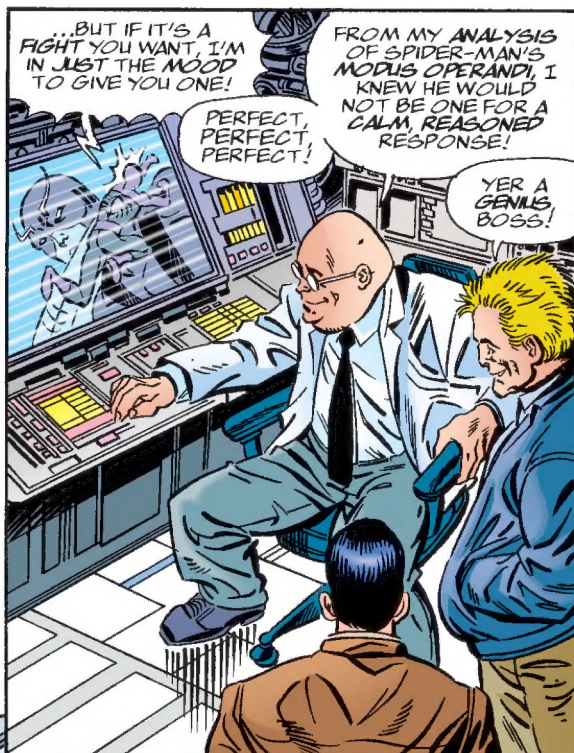
OKAY, WEBHEAD, LET THE LADY GO AND BACK OFF!



LADY ...??

OH-HH! SO THIS LITTLE SPECK MUST BE THE WASP, HUH?

WELL, I DON'T KNOW WHY YOUR GIRLFRIEND HAS IT IN FOR ME, BIG MAN...



WELL, THIS IS
JUST NO FUN AT
ALL! I MANAGED TO
WRIGGLE OUT OF
SPIDER-MAN'S
WEB...

...BUT NO ONE IS
PAYING ANY
ATTENTION TO ME!
AND THAT IS THEIR
MISTAKE!

IF I CAN CATCH
SPIDER-MAN
ACROSS THE JAW
WITH MY STING, IT'LL
BE LIKE HITTING HIM
WITH A HARD LEFT
HOOK!

YES!!

OW!!

GOT
YOU!

NOW WE'RE
GOING TO FIND OUT
WHAT THIS IS ALL
ABOUT!

GOOD
PLAN!

ONLY YOU
DON'T HAVE
ME, G-M!

I'VE
GOT
YOU!



DON'T BET ON THAT, FRIEND!

BLAST! HE JUST FLEXED THOSE OVERSIZED MUSCLES OF HIS...

...AND SNAPPED MY WEBBING BEFORE IT COULD HARDEN ENOUGH TO HOLD HIM!



AND TO MAKE MATTERS WORSE, HERE COME THE COPS!

KEEP BACK GENTLEMEN! I'LL GET SPIDER-MAN FOR YOU—WITHOUT ANYONE GETTING HURT!

YEAH, SIT BACK AND ENJOY THE FIGHT, OFFICERS!

I'LL HAVE GIANT-MAN WHITTLED DOWN TO MY SIZE IN NO TIME!



DON'T MAKE PROMISES YOU CAN'T KEEP, SPIDER-MAN.

THERE'RE PRECIOUS FEW PLACES YOUR WEBS CAN CARRY YOU THAT MY SIZE WON'T LET ME FOLLOW!

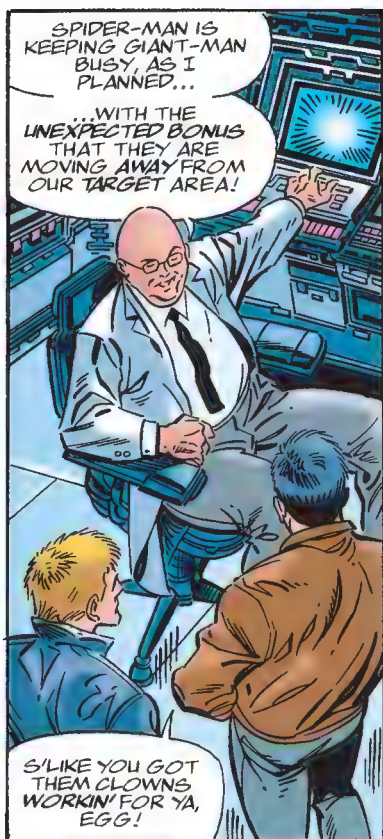
DEATS ME, BUT WE BETTER TRY TO BOY'EM IN BEFORE SOMEBODY GETS HURT.

THIS IS PATROL 319 TO CENTRAL. SUBJECTS ARE MOVING OUT OF CONTACT AREA, HEADING EAST ON FIFTY-THIRD.

THEY'RE MOVIN' AWAY FAST. WONDER WHY THEY'RE FIGHTIN', ANYWAY!

SEND REINFORCEMENTS TO INTERCEPT.

"PERFECT!!"



SPIDER-MAN IS KEEPING GIANT-MAN BUSY, AS I PLANNED...

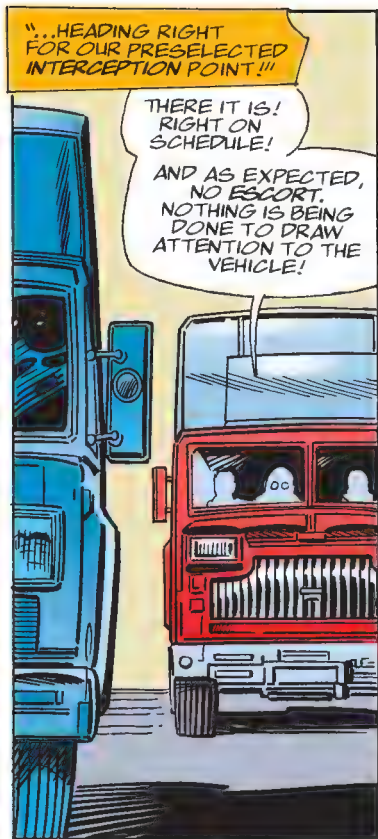
...WITH THE UNEXPECTED BONUS THAT THEY ARE MOVING AWAY FROM OUR TARGET AREA!

S'LIKE YOU GOT THEM CLOWNS WORKIN' FOR YA, EGG!



THE CLASSIC TRIUMPH OF BRAIN OVER BRAWN, MY FRIEND!

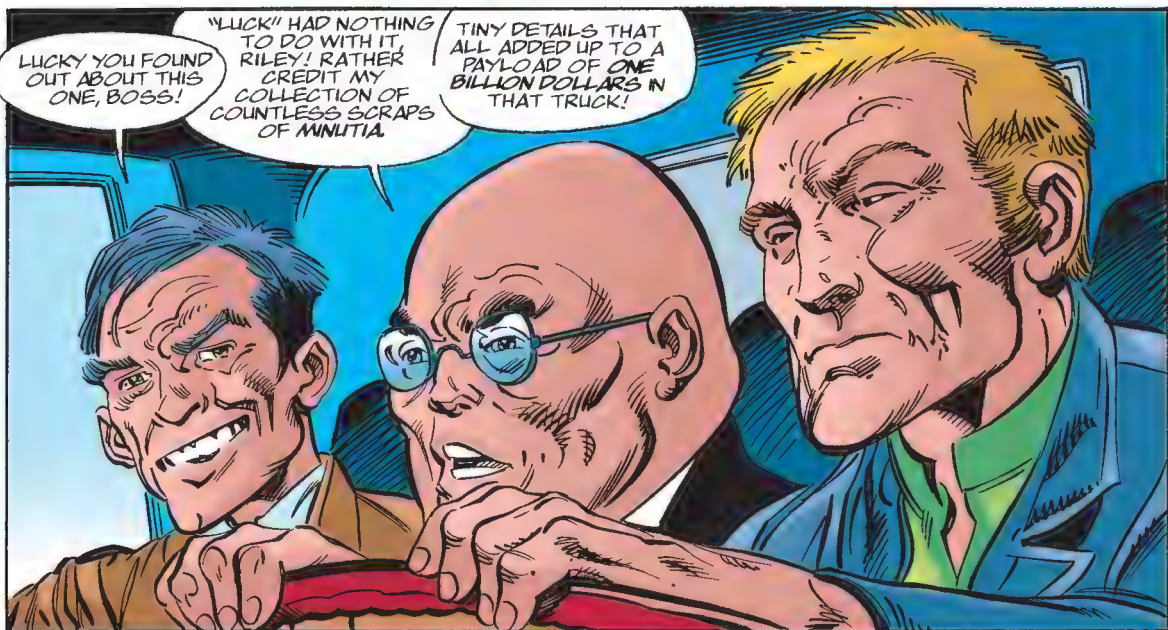
NOW, COME! THE ARMORED CAR WE ARE AFTER SHOULD BE LEAVING THE WEST SIDE HIGHWAY IN MOMENTS...



"...HEADING RIGHT FOR OUR PRESELECTED INTERCEPTION POINT!!"

THERE IT IS! RIGHT ON SCHEDULE!

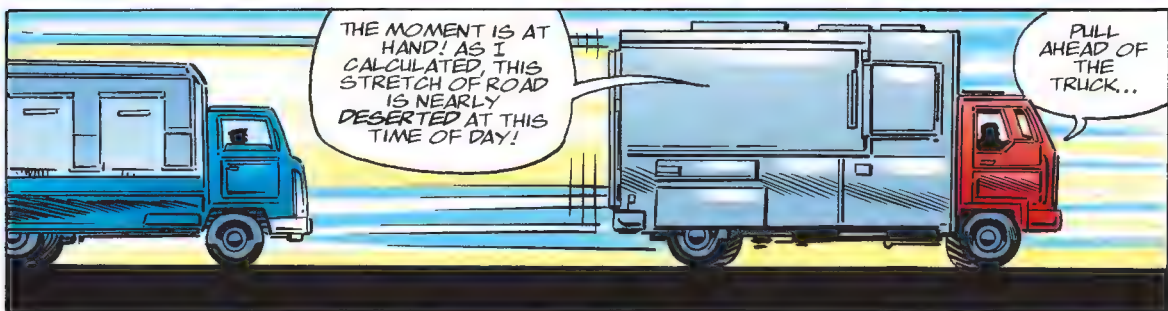
AND AS EXPECTED, NO ESCORT. NOTHING IS BEING DONE TO DRAW ATTENTION TO THE VEHICLE!



LUCKY YOU FOUND OUT ABOUT THIS ONE, BOSS!

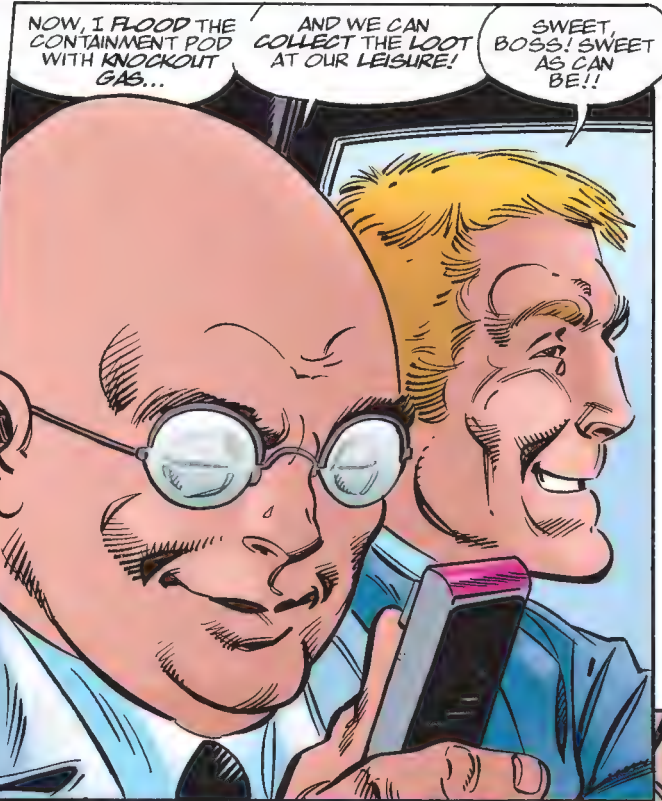
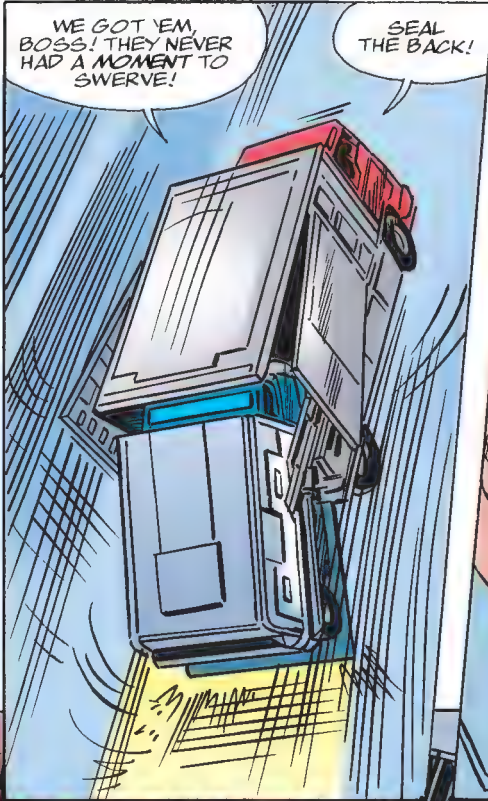
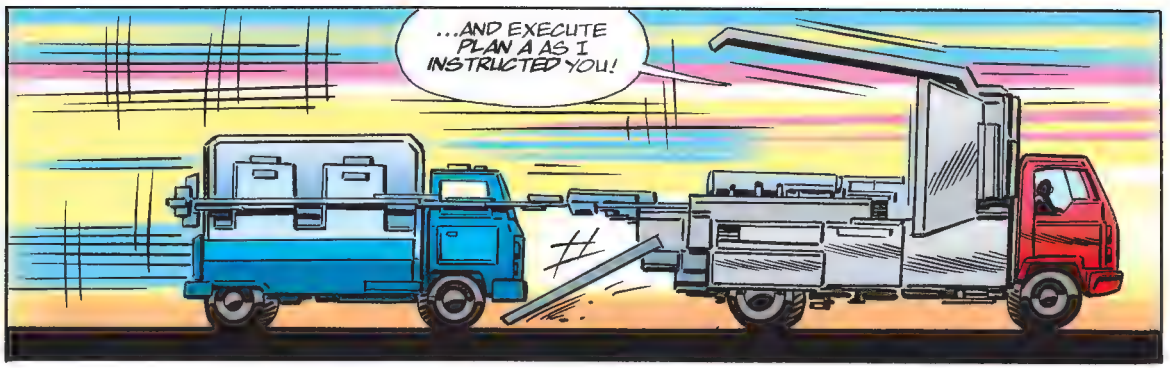
"LUCK" HAD NOTHING TO DO WITH IT, RILEY! RATHER CREDIT MY COLLECTION OF COUNTLESS SCRAPS OF MINUTIA.

TINY DETAILS THAT ALL ADDED UP TO A PAYLOAD OF ONE BILLION DOLLARS IN THAT TRUCK!



THE MOMENT IS AT HAND! AS I CALCULATED THIS STRETCH OF ROAD IS NEARLY DESERTED AT THIS TIME OF DAY!

PULL AHEAD OF THE TRUCK...





HE'S GOT US ON A TECHNICALITY THERE, LOVER! SORRY!

BUT IT'S JUST A TECHNICALITY! THE ANTS WARNED US YOU WERE ON OUR TRAIL, SPIDER.

SORRY--AM I HEARING THIS RIGHT? YOU'VE BEEN POUNDIN' MY BRAINS INTO THE PAVEMENT BECAUSE OF SOMETHING YOU HEARD FROM AN ANT?



WE HAPPEN TO TRUST THE ANTS, SPIDER-MAN.

BUT--THIS DOES ALL SEEM A BIT CONTRIVED DOESN'T IT?

A BIT. I WONDER...

HEY! WHAT'S THAT TINGLING SENSATION I'M GETTING?

IF YOU'RE TRYING TO PULL SOMETHING...

WHAT YOU'RE FEELING IS GIANT-MAN USING THE CYBER-LINK IN HIS HELMET TO SEND OUT A SIGNAL TO EVERY ANT IN THE CITY, SPIDER-MAN.

THEY'RE MY ARMY OF SIX-LEGGED INFORMANTS. THERE'S NOT A PLACE IN THE CITY THEY CAN'T ENTER AND REPORT FROM.

AND THEY'VE GOT SOMETHING!

RIGHT HERE, SPIDER-MAN! I'VE SHRUNK DOWN TO ANT-MAN SIZE SO I CAN RIDE THIS FLYING ANT I SUMMONED.

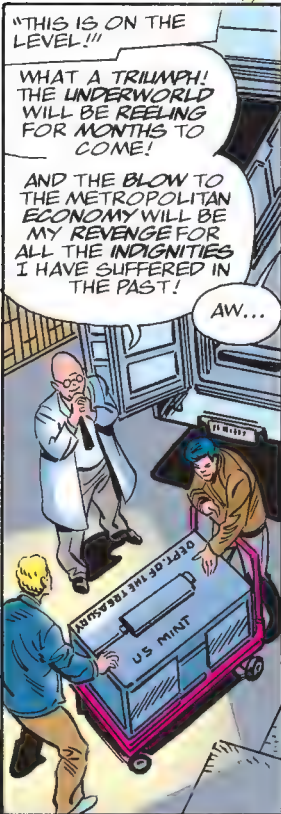
HEY! WHERE'D YOU GO!?!?



NOW, STAY CLOSE WALLCRAWLER! IF MY ANTS ARE RIGHT, THERE'S SOMETHING GOING ON THAT'S OF INTEREST TO BOTH OF US!

LEAD ON, SMALL FRY, BUT IF THIS IS SOME KIND OF TRICK...

TURN OFF THE TESTOSTERONE FOR FIVE MINUTES, SPIDEY!

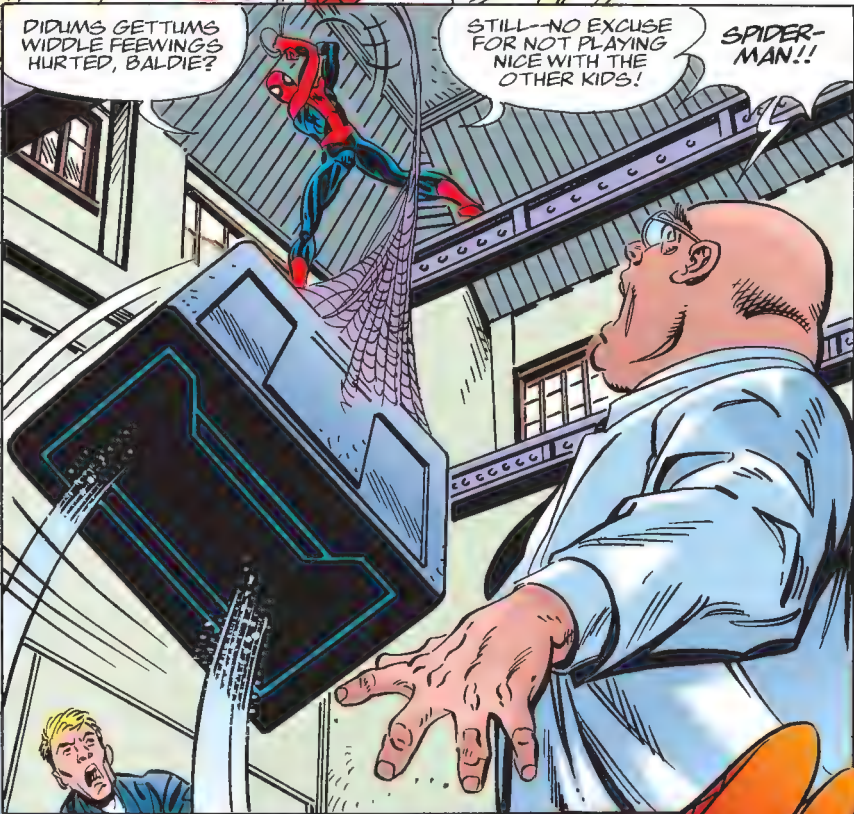


"THIS IS ON THE LEVEL!"

WHAT A TRIUMPH! THE UNDERWORLD WILL BE REELING FOR MONTHS TO COME!

AND THE BLOW TO THE METROPOLITAN ECONOMY WILL BE MY REVENGE FOR ALL THE INDIGNITIES I HAVE SUFFERED IN THE PAST!

AW...



DIDUMS GETTUMS WIDDLE FEETINGS HURTED, BALDIE?

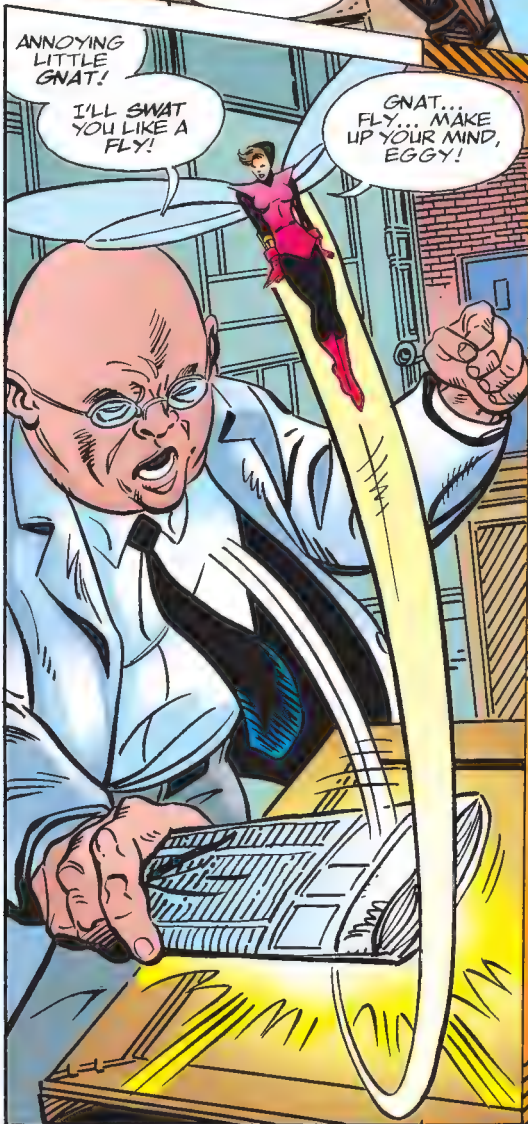
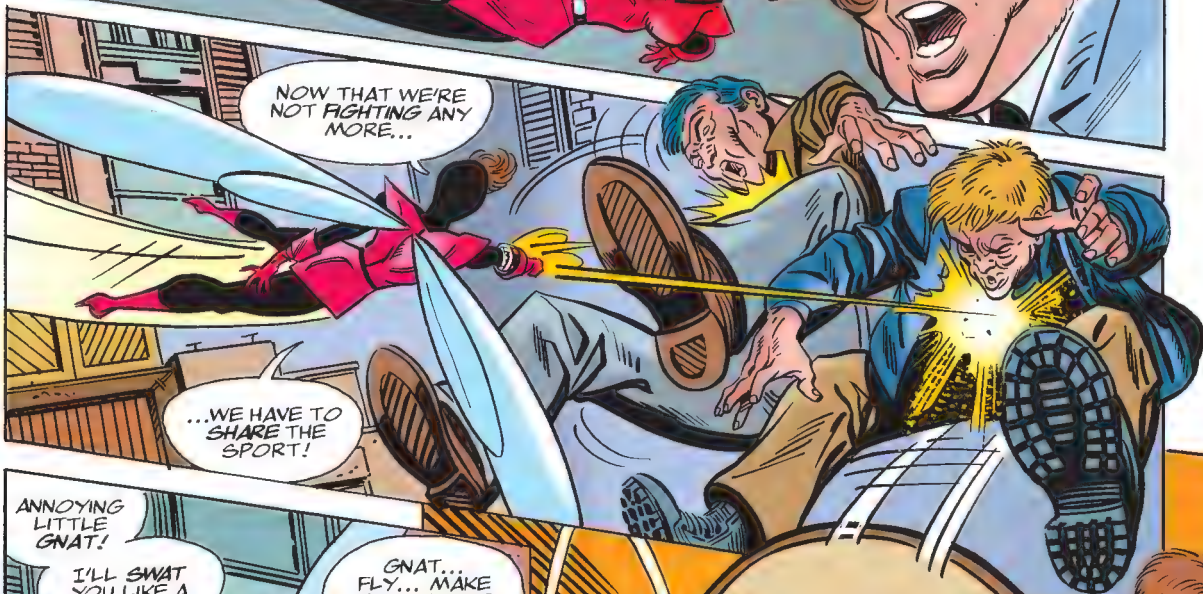
STILL-NO EXCUSE FOR NOT PLAYING NICE WITH THE OTHER KIDS!

SPIDER-MAN!!



AUTOGRAPH LINE FORMS ON THE RIGHT, BOYS.

AND I GOTTA HAND IT TO GIANT-MAN! THOSE BUG BUDDIES OF HIS LED US RIGHT TO THIS SPOT!



STILL--THAT WAS THE LAST SHOT IN MY STINGER.

GIANT-MAN, RIGHT ABOUT NOW WOULD BE A GOOD TIME TO MAKE AN ENTRANCE!

SURE YOU DO! IN SOME ALTERNATE REALITY WHERE "GOT HER" MEANS "MISSED HER COMPLETELY!!"

OOF!!

RIGHT HERE, WASP.

UH-OH--LOOKS LIKE EGGHEAD'S GOT THE DROP ON G-M...



...AND I DON'T
KNOW HOW
BULLETPROOF THE
BIG GUY IS, SO...



SPIDER-MAN!
GET HIM! GET
HIM!!

LOOKS LIKE YOU'RE
GOING TO HAVE TO
DO YOUR OWN
GETTING, EGG!



YOUR
BOYS ARE
ALL OTHERWISE
DISPOSED OF!

OH-HH!
I FEEL
SICK!

LEMMIE
DOWN!

SO THERE WAS
NEVER A REASON
FOR US TO FIGHT,
HUH, HIGH-
POCKETS?

JUST THIS CLOWN
TRICKING US FOR HIS
OWN ENDS!



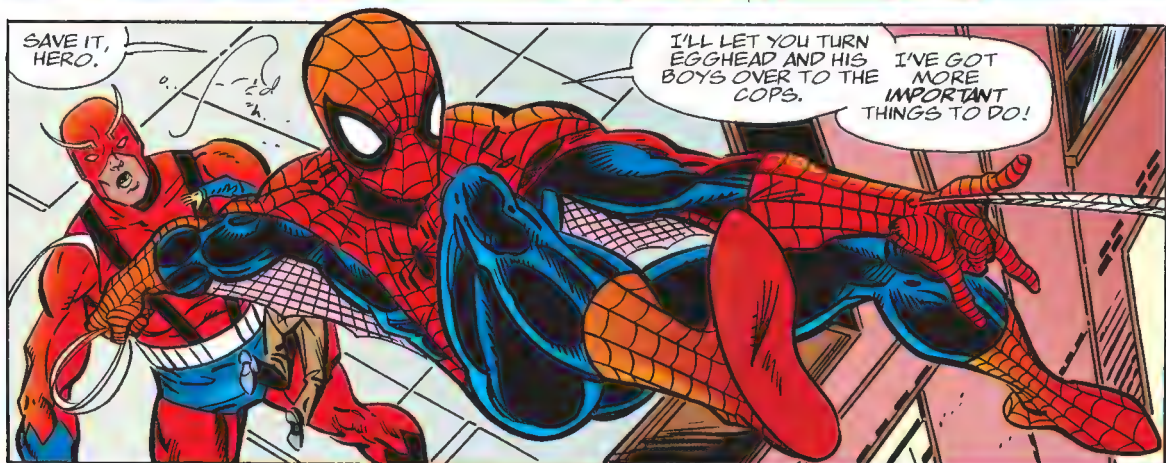
SPIDER-MAN, WAIT!
THERE'S A BILLION
DOLLARS IN THAT
STRONGBOX! HELP
ME DEFEAT GIANT-
MAN AND HALF OF IT
IS YOURS!

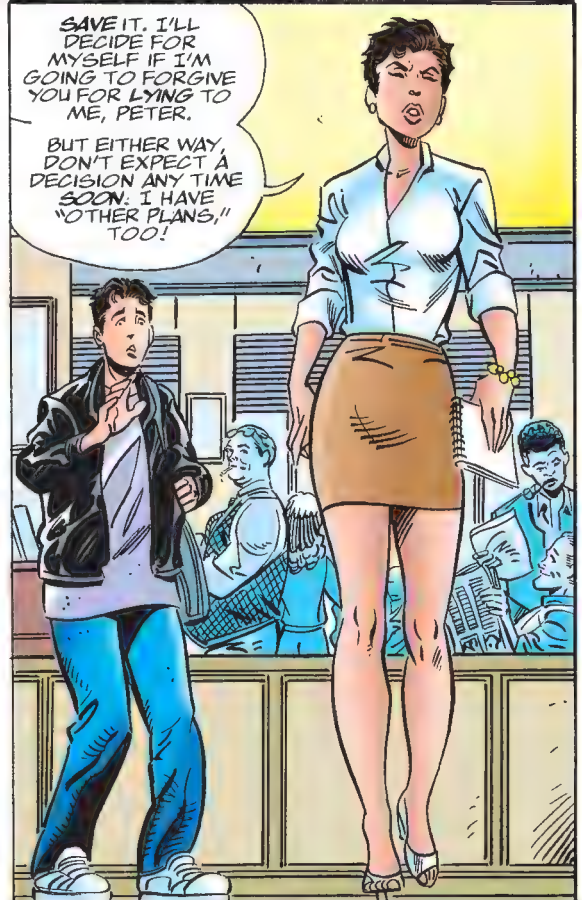
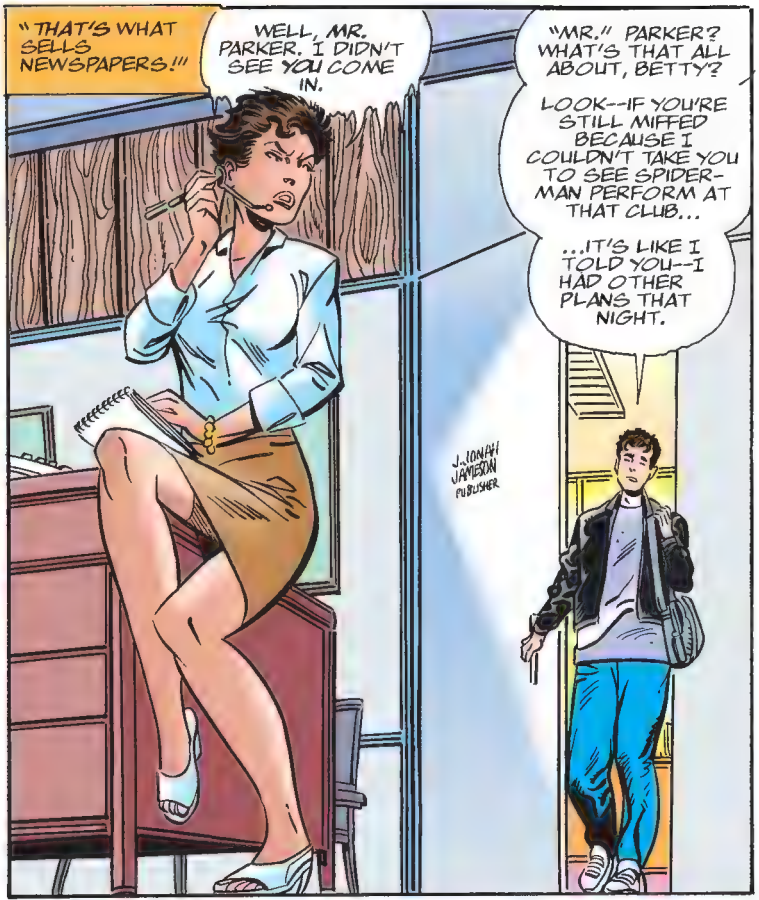
SORRY, EGGHEAD,
BUT MY MINIMUM
FEE FOR TAKING
DOWN OTHER
GOOD-GUYS IS
SEVENTY-FIVE
PERCENT.

HERE YOU GO,
GIANT-MAN! ADD
THIS ONE TO YOUR
COLLECTION!



AND WHY DON'T YOU
SCURRY ON BACK TO
YOUR WEBSITE,
JUNIOR. WE DON'T
NEED YOU
HERE--AND WE
NEVER DID!





A FEW MINUTES LATER, AS A DEJECTED PETER PARKER BEGINS THE LONG TREK HOME TO QUEENS...

YA SEE THIS IN TH' BUGLE? JAMESON SAYS MAYBE SPIDER-MAN SET UP THAT WHOLE THING WITH THE GREEN GOBLIN!

YEAH! HE SAID THEY
WERE PLANNIN' T'
KNOCK OVER THE
CLUB, AND THE
HUMAN TORCH BEIN'
THERE QUEERED
THE DEAL!

I JUST DON'T
TRUST THAT
SPIDER-MAN!
NEVER HAVE!

YEAH--WHY'S HE
NEED THAT MASK IF
HE'S SUCH A GOOD
GUY? YOU DON'T
SEE TH' FANTASTIC
FOUR WEARING NO
MASKS!

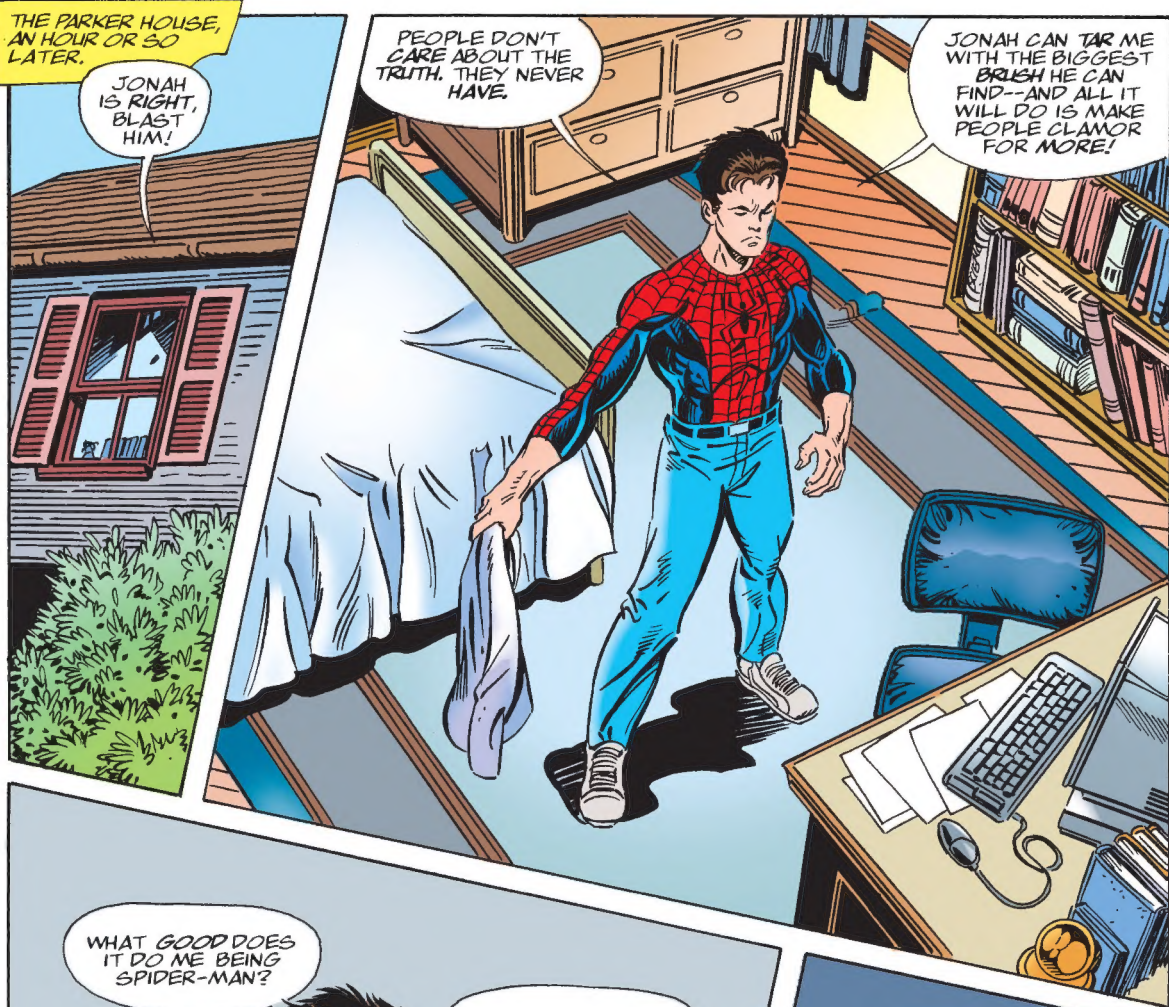


THE PARKER HOUSE,
AN HOUR OR SO
LATER.

JONAH
IS RIGHT,
BLAST
HIM!

PEOPLE DON'T
CARE ABOUT THE
TRUTH. THEY NEVER
HAVE.

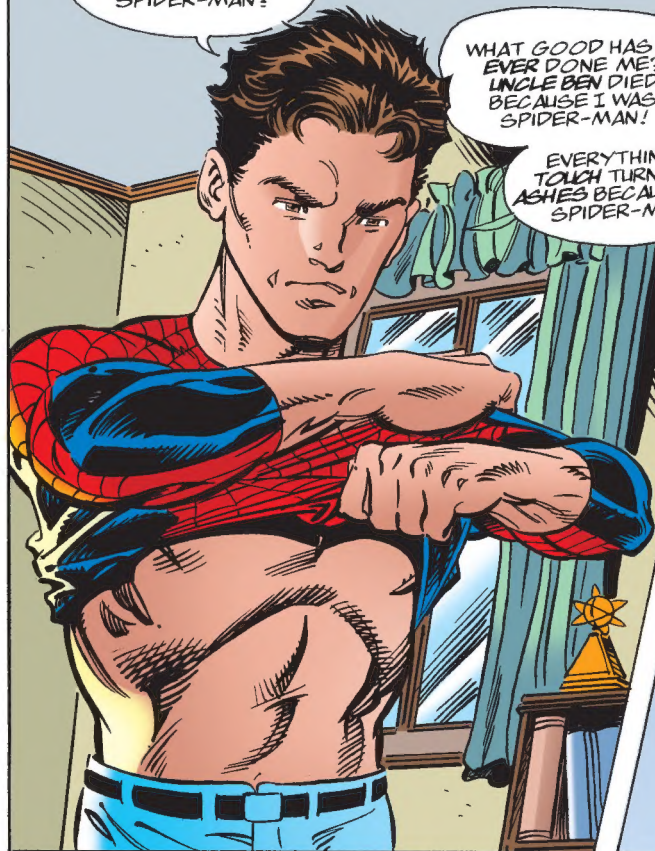
JONAH CAN TAR ME
WITH THE BIGGEST
BRUSH HE CAN
FIND--AND ALL IT
WILL DO IS MAKE
PEOPLE CLAMOR
FOR MORE!



WHAT GOOD DOES
IT DO ME BEING
SPIDER-MAN?

WHAT GOOD HAS IT
EVER DONE ME?
UNCLE BEN DIED
BECAUSE I WAS
SPIDER-MAN!

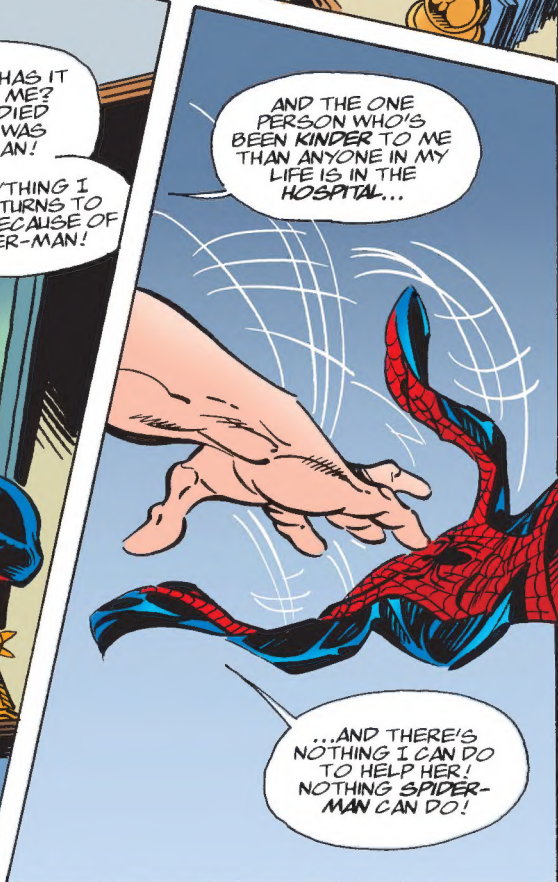
EVERYTHING I
TOUCH TURNS TO
ASHES BECAUSE OF
SPIDER-MAN!



AND THE ONE
PERSON WHO'S
BEEN KINDER TO ME
THAN ANYONE IN MY
LIFE IS IN THE
HOSPITAL...



...AND THERE'S
NOTHING I CAN DO
TO HELP HER!
NOTHING SPIDER-
MAN CAN DO!



WHY DO THINGS
NEVER SEEM TO
TURN OUT FOR ME?
WHY DO I ALWAYS
SEEM TO HURT
PEOPLE, NO
MATTER HOW HARD
I TRY NOT TO?

WHY MUST THIS
ALWAYS BE THE
PRICE I PAY FOR
BEING SPIDER-MAN?



NEXT The END of SPIDER-MAN?



Tyrant
Lizard
King

EMPIRE